

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Currently amended): A method for manufacturing [[the]] a polarizing electrode for an electrical double layer capacitor ~~according to claim 33~~, comprising:

subjecting an easily graphitizable carbonaceous material to an alkali activation treatment;

washing the alkali activation treatment product thus obtained with a liquid ~~that contains~~ comprising carbonic acid;

washing the carbonic acid washed product with hydrochloric acid to give an activated carbon, and

preparing the polarizing electrode by mixing and forming the hydrochloric acid washed activated carbon, at least one binder and a conductive material,

wherein the activated carbon has an overall content of alkali metals of 60 ppm or less,
and

the easily graphitizable carbonaceous material is one selected from the group consisting of a petroleum coke, a petroleum pitch, a synthetic mesophase pitch, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyimide and a polyacrylonitrile.

Claims 36-41 (Canceled).

Claim 42 (Currently amended): A method for manufacturing [[the]] a polarizing electrode for an electrical double layer capacitor ~~according to claim 36~~, comprising:

subjecting an easily graphitizable carbonaceous material to an alkali activation treatment;

washing the alkali activation treatment product thus obtained with a liquid comprising a basic substance, and

washing the obtained basic substance washed product with hydrochloric acid to give an activated carbon, and

preparing the polarizing electrode by mixing and forming the activated carbon, at least one binder and a conductive material,

wherein

the activated carbon has an overall content of heavy metals of 20 ppm or less, and

the easily graphitizable carbonaceous material is one selected from the group consisting of a petroleum coke, a petroleum pitch, a synthetic mesophase pitch, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyimide and a polyacrylonitrile.

Claims (43-51) Canceled.

Claim 52 (Currently amended): A method for manufacturing ~~[[the]]~~ a polarizing electrode for an electrical double layer capacitor ~~according to claim 36~~, comprising:

subjecting an easily graphitizable carbonaceous material to an alkali activation treatment;

washing the alkali activation treatment product thus obtained with an acidic aqueous solution ~~containing~~ comprising an oxidizing agent to give ~~[[the]]~~ an activated carbon; and

preparing the polarizing electrode by mixing and forming the ~~resulting~~ activated carbon, at least one binder and a conductive material, wherein

the activated carbon has an overall content of heavy metals of 20 ppm or less, and

the easily graphitizable carbonaceous material is one selected from the group consisting of a petroleum coke, a petroleum pitch, a synthetic mesophase pitch, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyimide and a polyacrylonitrile.

Claim 53 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 52, wherein an activation assistant in the alkali activation treatment is sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or a mixture of sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

Claim 54 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 52, wherein said acidic aqueous solution comprises hydrochloric acid.

Claim 55 (Currently amended): A method for manufacturing ~~[[the]]~~ a polarizing electrode for an electrical double layer capacitor ~~according to claim 43~~, comprising:

subjecting an easily graphitizable carbonaceous material to an alkali activation treatment,

washing the alkali activation treatment product thus obtained with water of 60 to 90°C,

washing the water washed product with hydrochloric acid of 60 to 90°C, and

washing the hydrochloric acid washed product with water in that order to give ~~[[the]]~~ an activated carbon, and

preparing the polarizing electrode by mixing and forming the washed activated carbon, at least one binder and a conductive material, wherein the activated carbon has an overall content of heavy metals of 20 ppm or less and an overall content of alkali metals of 200 ppm or less, and

the easily graphitizable carbonaceous material is one selected from the group consisting of a petroleum coke, a petroleum pitch, a synthetic mesophase pitch, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyimide and a polyacrylonitrile.

Claim 56 (Currently amended): A method for manufacturing ~~[[the]]~~ a polarizing electrode for an electrical double layer capacitor ~~according to claim 43~~, comprising:

subjecting an easily graphitizable carbonaceous material to an alkali activation treatment;

washing the alkali activation treatment product with water of 60 to 90°C;

washing the water washed product with carbonated water;

washing the carbonated water washed product with hydrochloric acid of 60 to 90°C;

washing the hydrochloric acid washed product with aqueous ammonia;

washing the aqueous ammonia washed product with water of 60 to 90°C in that order to give ~~[[the]]~~ an activated carbon; and

preparing the polarizing electrode by mixing and forming the activated carbon, at least one binder and a conductive material; wherein

the activated carbon has an overall content of heavy metals of 20 ppm or less and an overall content of alkali metals of 200 ppm or less, and

the easily graphitizable carbonaceous material is one selected from the group consisting of a petroleum coke, a petroleum pitch, a synthetic mesophase pitch, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyimide and a polyacrylonitrile.

Claim 57 (Currently amended): A method for manufacturing ~~[[the]]~~ a polarizing electrode for an electrical double layer capacitor ~~according to claim 43~~, comprising:

subjecting an easily graphitizable carbonaceous material to an alkali activation treatment;

washing the alkali activation treatment product thus obtained with water of 60 to 90°C;

washing the water washed product with carbonated water;

washing the carbonated water washed product with hydrochloric acid of 60 to 90°C,

washing the hydrochloric acid washed product with aqueous ammonia;

washing the aqueous ammonia washed product with hydrochloric acid of 60 to 90°C;

washing the hydrochloric acid washed product with water of 60 to 90°C in that order to give [[the]] an activated carbon; and

preparing the polarizing electrode by mixing and forming the activated carbon, at least one binder and a conductive material, wherein

the activated carbon has an overall content of heavy metals of 20 ppm or less and an overall content of alkali metals of 200 ppm or less, and

the easily graphitizable carbonaceous material is one selected from the group consisting of a petroleum coke, a petroleum pitch, a synthetic mesophase pitch, a polyvinyl chloride, a polyimide and a polyacrylonitrile.

Claim 58 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 56, wherein an activation assistant in the alkali activation treatment is sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or a mixture of sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

Claim 59 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 56, wherein a concentration of said hydrochloric acid is from 0.5 to 3 N.

Claim 60 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 57, wherein an activation assistant in the alkali activation treatment is sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or a mixture of sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

Claim 61 (Previously presented): The method according to claim 57 wherein the concentration of said hydrochloric acid is from 0.5 to 3.0 N.